

# Janice Schneider - Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management



Janice M. Schneider serves as Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management of the U.S. Department of the Interior. President Obama nominated Schneider for the position in November 2013. She was confirmed by the U.S. Senate and sworn into office on May 16, 2014.

As Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Ms. Schneider oversees four Interior Department agencies – the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, and the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, including more than 12,000 employees and a combined budget of \$1.5 billion. In this capacity she guides the Department's management and use of federal lands and waters and their associated mineral and non-mineral resources on about 245 million acres of federal surface lands, 700 million acres of federal mineral interests and the 1.7 billion acre Outer Continental Shelf. Part of the mission as Assistant Secretary is a commitment to managing, protecting, and improving lands and waters to serve the needs of the American people for all times.

Schneider has more than 30 years of environmental and natural resources experience, including in the public and private sectors. Prior to becoming Assistant Secretary, Schneider was a partner in the Environment, Land and Resources Department of Latham & Watkins LLP, Global Co-chair of the firm's Energy and Infrastructure Project Siting and Defense Practice and local department chair of the Environment, Land & Resources Department. During her federal experience she was Counselor to the Deputy Secretary of the Interior (2000); a trial attorney in the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (2001, 1998-1999); and an Attorney-Advisor with the U.S. Department of the Interior in the Office of the Solicitor, where she started her legal career in the Solicitor's Honors Program (1992-1998). Prior to becoming an attorney, Schneider worked as a fisheries biologist and environmental consultant for six years in south Florida with the University of Miami, the National Park Service, the Florida Department of Transportation and a private consulting firm.

Schneider received a B.S. from the University of Miami in Biology and Marine Science and a J.D. with a Certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law from the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College. Schneider was recently honored by the school with its Distinguished Environmental Law Graduate award (2013). She is a member of the Bar in Maryland and the District of Columbia and has received a number of professional honors and awards from the legal community and federal agencies.